

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/823,923

Applicant(s)

GRAY, KEITH

Examiner

Art Unit

Thomas R. Artman

2882

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 21 July 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>200608</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Colby, Reg. No. 50,250, on August 15th, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 7, line 3: after the term "instructions," add: -- stored on a computer readable medium, the computer instructions --

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither teaches nor reasonably suggests a detector device having:

- a) an external sync pulse configured for triggering the internal sync pulse,
- b) a ready signal output configured to indicate when the internal sync pulse can be generated responsive to the external sync input; and

c) an input configured for initiating a data acquisition mode transition, where an internal clock generates an internal sync pulse during part of the transition, where the internal sync pulse is generated by the external sync input following the transition, in combination with the apparatus as claimed in claim 1.

Claims 2 and 3 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

The prior art of record neither teaches nor reasonably suggests a detector device where the sensor array is flushed responsive to an internal clock during part of a data acquisition mode change and is further flushed responsive to an external signal prior to the data acquisition mode change, in combination with the apparatus as claimed in claim 4.

Claims 5 and 6 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

The prior art of record neither teaches nor reasonably suggests a control system where an input signal from a detector device indicates whether the frame start times are dependent on or independent from an output signal configured to control the frame start times, in combination with the apparatus as claimed in claim 7.

Claims 8 and 9 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

The prior art of record neither teaches nor reasonably suggests an x-ray system where:

a) the detector device has an output configured to indicate when an external sync pulse can be used to trigger internal sync pulses for indicating frame start times, and further where the

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detector device has an internal circuit that flushes the array of sensors responsive to an internal clock that triggers the internal sync pulses, and further where

b) the control system has an output configured to provide the external sync input to the detector device and an input configured to monitor the output of the detector device to detect the completion of the data acquisition mode change,

in combination with the apparatus as claimed in claim 10.

Claims 11-14 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 15, 17 and 20 are allowed for reasons as stated in the previous Office action, dated April 18th, 2006.

Claims 16, 18, 19 and 21-24 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas R. Artman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2485. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 5:30pm Monday - Friday.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thomas R. Artman
Patent Examiner

 8/15/06


Courtney Thomas
Primary Examiner